

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Serial No. 09/973,862  
Atty. Docket No. GP095-06.DV4

**Remarks**

Claims 23-56 are presently pending in the subject application. Claims 1-22 are canceled herein without prejudice. Claims 23-56 are newly added and are fully supported by the application as filed. Thus, no new matter is introduced by the above new claims.

The title of the invention has been amended herein to be more properly reflect the subject matter of the claimed invention.

The specification has been amended herein to update priority data.

Applicants submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance, and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees due in connection with this Reply to Deposit Account No. 07-0835 in the name of Gen-Probe Incorporated.

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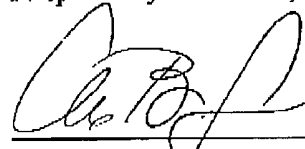
**Certificate of Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (and any referred to as attached) is being sent by facsimile to 703-872-9306 on the date indicated below to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 6, 2004

By:



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